

T H E  
L I F E and D E A T H  
O F T H E  
English Rogue;  
O R, H I S  
L A S T L E G A C Y  
T O T H E  
W O R L D.

C O N T A I N I N G

Most of his Notorious Robberies, Cheats and Debaucht Practices.

With a full Discovery of a High-way Rogue; also Directions to all Travellers, how to know Rogues, and how to Avoid them.

And an Infallible Rule how to take them, when Rob'd by them.  
Directing all Inn-keepers, Chamberlains and Ostlers, how to Distinguish Rogues from honest Guests.

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The manner of his being Apprehended and his Behaviour in Prison, which was very Remarkable.

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To which is added an Alphabetical Canting Dictionary; English before the Canting for the better understanding of Mumpers and Maunders, Priggers and Prancers, Rūm Pads and Rūmpadders.

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L O N D O N :

Printed for Eben. Tracy, at the Three Bibles on London-Bridge.

# THE LIFE and DEATH OF THE English Rogue;

OR HIS  
LAST LEGACY  
TO THE  
WORLD.  
CONTAINING



Moss of his Notorious Robberies, Cheats and Debauch Practices;  
With a full Discovery of a High-way Rogue, also Directions to all Travellers how  
to know Rogues, and how to Avoid them.  
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and Thieves, from Paris and Rembrandt.

LONDON.  
Printed for E. and J. T. at the Three Bibles in Long-Street.

The LIFE and DEATH  
OF THE  
ENGLISH ROGUE.

CHAP. I.  
An Account of his Parents, and the place of his Birth, &c.

**A**FTER a strict enquiry after my Pedigree I found my Father's Father, to be a Husband-man; Arrived to the height of a Farmer, and become the Head of his Kindred. Standing upon one of his own Mole-hills, Ambition so swelled him that he swore by his Plow-share that his eldest Son (my Father) should be a Schollard; and should learn so long till he could read any Printed or written hand, and also write a Bill or Bond if Occasion served.

It was never known that any of my Family could distinguish one Letter from another, neither could they speak above the reach of their Horses understanding. Talk to them in any other Language, but that of a Bag-pudding or a piece of Beef, in which their Teeth might step, wet-shod, and a Man might as well have talk'd to them in *Arabicke*. But let me not abuse them, for some of them understood something else, that is to say, the art of Whistling, driving their Team, and how to lean methodically upon a Staff, and through the holes of their Hat tell what was a Clock by the Sun.

The sweetness of Features, and acuteness of my Father's Wit, was such as caus'd him to be belov'd of all: some of which taking notice of more than ordinary Parts in him, sent him to School. He took his Learning extraordinary well; but my Grand-father being exempted from the charges of maintaining him at School he supply'd him with plenty of Money for idle expences; which caus'd him to grow prodigal for some time: till being convinc'd of his own Folly, he betook himself again to his Study, and soon re-gain'd his former Credit; and in little time was made Chaplain to a Noble-man, who



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took such liking to him, that he procur'd him a Wife of a good Fortune. Within a Year after my Father's Marriage, the Noble-man travell'd into *Ireland*, and my Father and Mother along with him. My Mother that conceiv'd me in *England*, was deliver'd of me in *Ireland*. I was brought up to Learning by my Father, till I was about thirteen Years old. And then having a rambling Head, I run away from my Father and Mother, and got my passage for *England*, where I arriv'd in two Months time, after having endur'd many a sad Storm. I being come a-shore, I never stood to pay for my Passage, but gave them the slip. I wandred towards *London*; my Money being spent I beg'd and took what I saw in the Way, as Cocks, Hens, and Geese, and now and then a good fat Pig. I sometimes made Money of them; and so had Money to pay for the dressing of the rest at my Lodging.

### CHAP. II.

*How he enters himself into the Society of Beggars.*

**B**eing come to *London* walking in the Streets Money less, knowing not what course to take, I met with one who inquir'd of me, Whether I wanted Employment? I answer'd, Yes. He desir'd me to go with him; I willingly consented. He straightway took his way to *Poplo*. But by the way my Friend could not forbear calling on his Friends in *Rosemary lane*, and *East Smithfield*: my Friend acquainted them how he had pick'd me up; and withal desir'd their company at Night, in order to my being elected into their Company. They came about the hour of five in the Evening, to make merry at my Friend's House; and after bouzing every one his half dozen, they gave me a Nick-name. I was immediately put into an Equipage fit for Employment; he taught me to counterfeit Sores or Clymes, according to the term of Art; which with the assistance of some of the Fraternity, I had in an Hour's time such a Leg, that I could hardly look upon it: they took unslak'd Lime and Sope mingled with the rust of old Iron; those mixt together they spread thick on two pieces of Leather, and apply'd to my Leg, binding it on hard: in a short time it fretted off the Skin, the Flesh appearing raw, then they took Blood and rub'd it over my Leg; after it was dry it made my Leg look as black as Ink, the fore they did only let peep out of the holes of five or six matterish Clouts; this being done we got us a Doxie with a couple of Children, the one to carry in her Arms, the other to lead: my Friend providing



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will say. But all this was only to get a good esteem, whereby I might gain faster footing, so that in a short time I had compleated the conquest of my Mistress's Heart. I pretended my self a Quaker, and I would not omit any opportunity of going to their Meetings, and I would Rail against Steeple-houses, and tear the Bishops Holland-sleeves to pieces, calling them the filthy Rags of the Whore of Babylon, &c. I did pray mornings and Evenings so loud that my Neighbours might hear. But I silly Fool, deceiv'd my self, how considering that the Eye of the Almighty was over me, and that he would not be deceiv'd by any Man.

I was very diligent in my Master's Business, never stirring any whither without giving him a good account: till such time as I got acquaintance with my Neighbour's Man, who insinuated himself to my Affections. He and I met abroad one time and drank a Pint of Wine, he having me to a Tavern where he said the Drawer was his Friend, which I found true; for we had Sack at the price of White-wine; I admir'd at it, but my Neighbour Thomas told me it was frequent, and that he and two or three Friends could be drunk for Sixpence a-piece, if honest Ralph the Drawer was in the way, and (said he) come you are but a Novice; but if you will be rul'd by me, I'll shew you a way to make your Seven Years Apprenticeship seem short, for you shall live a more merry Life than your Master.

I ask'd how this could be done? He answer'd, If I would Swear to be secret and faithful, and become a Brother of their Society, he would tell me how all this should be perform'd. I soon consented, and rejoicing at this my promised happiness, very eager I was to have my Judgment inform'd about what was to be done, not doubting but in a little time to be as forward as the best of them. And first he inform'd me that I must insinuate my self into the Maids favour, so that I might when occasion serv'd have the Key of the Street-door of her, or to sit up for me; promising to make her amends for her kindness, which I soon did; often repeating this to her, O that I were out of my time, then would I repay thee thy Love, and withall give her some Kisses and Hugs, telling her that I loved her dearly: and by this means I got her to let me out or in at any time. And now I must tell you what my Confederates were, and what Trades, viz. Linnen-Drapers, Woollen Drapers, Silkmen, Haberdashers, Grocers, Gold Smiths, Jewellers, Milliners, Mercers, a Drawer and an Oylman, the one to supply us with good Liquor, and the other to furnish us with Sauce.

When:

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When I had been at the first Meeting and seen their Orders, I liked it wonderfull well, and I promised to meet that Day seven night at the place appointed, and so we parted. No sooner was I come home but I began to put my design in practice: First taking notice what Goods we had great quantities of, and what my Master forgot, sometimes I would try him thus, Sir, say I, there was such a Person to Day to enquire for such a thing, but I could not find it: it may be, he would say, we had it not; I having taken an account before, could snip off that Commodity safely.

The Night being come that I was to meet my Companions I carried my Commodities, and they being liked of well we truckt with each other. I took only such things as might be proper to bestow at home, to whom I presented them accompanied with many protestations of my Affections; she accepted of my kindness with much gratitude: but I discerned her Inclinations by her griping my Hand, kissing me as if she would eat me up; and her Eyes ran parallel with her desires. I perceiving her Inclination, made up a Bargain with her, after which I would have betaken my self to my own Bed, but she was not well pleased with it, for nothing would content her, but that we should be Bed-fellows. I consented to it, desiring her to go up first, and I would come by that time I thought she was in Bed. The Maid lay in a Trundle-bed underneath my Master and Mistress, my Master being a little more drunk than ordinary, slept so sound that the noise of my coming up did not awake him, tho' the Stairs creakt much, I stood a while at the Chamber-door, and finding all quiet and still, I enter'd the Room which was as dark as Hell, and groping the contrary way, with a low Voice, I cry'd, VWhere art? Here, here, said my Mistress: minding from whence the sound came I directed my Footsteps that way: when I came to the side of the Bed, I kiss her a thousand times; not perceiving my mistake, I open'd the Bed-cloaths to come in. Hold, said my Mistress, I have a Bed-fellow already; I shall talk with you to Morrow. I durst not reply: but immediately betook my self to my own Chamber, where I could do nothing but tumble and roll all Night; in the Morning I shew'd more than ordinary diligence: when I saw my Mistress come into the Shop, I was so bullic with my Back towards her that she could not have a sight of me; at length she comes up close to me and turning me about, said, Indeed you take too much pains; fair and softly goes far. Desist a little, I must have a word with you. Hearing this, I presumed to look



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look her in the Face, and was overjoy'd, for from thence I receiv'd a Smile instead of a Frown. This arm'd me with so much Confidence, that I express'd my self to my Mistress as followeth: *Most respected Mistress, I do with shame confess my self in a great Error; but I hope you will consider my youthfulness: and if you do so, you will not be ignorant of the heat of young Blood.* After I thus excus'd my self, she bid me tell her the truth of the whole matter: I would have excus'd the Maid's forwardness, but my Mistress never left examining me, till she found out the business: She endeavour'd all she could to beat me out of love with the Maid, telling me, she would provide a better Fortune for me; and withall gave me to understand, that I might cool my Courage and never marry: I resolv'd to acquiesce, leaving this Affair to time to bring to perfection.

So active was I in all my Master's Affairs, that I gain'd very much upon his Good-nature: I had liberty to sit at Table with him, and I had the whole managing of the Trade; and that I might carry on my design the better, I put on the Face of Religion: now did I begin to Cant; I would take no heed to Church; and this I did to scruce my self into my Mistress's Favour, who I commonly led unto Meetings, and handed her home, often telling her, That was a precious Soul that taught. In a little time I had gotten the length of her Foot, and great part of her Heart: she would often signify to me her Desires by Tokens and Dumb-expressions. One Morning my Mistress came to the Counting-house door, and ask'd me what I was doing? I told her, nothing but Writing. Nothing, said she, nor never will do any thing but draw up Blanks. She knew the quickness of my Apprehension would interpret her meaning. Not long after, she inform'd my Master that she had a great desire to Visit a Gentlewoman she had not seen a long time; and requested that her Man *John* (for that was my Name) might wait on her; to which he consented. Though I led, yet I wander'd where she led me: at last we came to the Water-side; she order'd me to take a pair of Oars. The Water-man ask'd, whither we intended? She told him to *Putney*. I sat at a distance from her, shewing her the respect of a Mistress; which she taking notice of, laugh'd, saying, Come Cuz, why dost thou not sit nearer, for you are but light on you side. Whereupon, she cast a piercing Eye upon me: How now Cuz, said she, I thought you had a better opinion of me; I understand the Riddle, though your Expression may be dark to some, yet I have too much light into it. I would

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have

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have made an Apology for my self, but she hindred me by whispering in my Ear to this effect: That if she was light, there was no other cause but my self, and that if I abus'd her Love any longer, she would sit the heavier on my Skirts: when we were landed, she had me to an Acquaintance of hers, where we were conducted into a stately Garden with many Arbors in it; after a walk round the Garden, the good old Matron left us, as I suppos'd, by the desire of my Mistress, that she might have some private Discourse with me.

Now, said my Mistress, John I shall discover to thee the secrets of my Heart, the first time that ever I saw thee, I had more than a common respect for thee; I have us'd all possible means to blast my Love to thee in the bud, but could not. I alledg'd, that there was a disproportion in our Age, and unsuitableness as to our Condition; and lastly, what a Fain it would be to my Religious Profession; yet Love got the victory over all these: she rest she supply'd with Kisses which were infinite.

I return'd this her amorous Oration something suitably, by way of Retaliation; protesting, That since she had so compleated my Happiness by her Love, I would perish before I would be guilty of the least abuse therein——She put a stop to me, saying, Come, let us leave off talking in such idle phrases, let us not loose any time, wherein we may mutually enjoy each other; she propounded many Articles to me. First, That I should not boast to others of her freedom to me; nor let her Love cause any disrespect to my Master; nor that I should contemn my Fellow servants; and that I should reverence her more in Company than before; but in private, when none sees us, be as familiar and free as Actions can demonstrate; that I should be constant to her alone. Many more Articles she propounded, which I have forgot: but I remember I sealed them with a witness: we made an end of our business for that time, to the intent the tediousness of our staying might not be suspected by the poor Cuckold at home.

Coming home, I apply'd my self to the business of the Shop, and at the usual time went to Bed; but sleep I could not, for thinking on what I had done. About one of the Clock I was startled to hear something come into my Chamber; but before I could give my Eyes liberty to discover, my Mistress was gotten between the Sheets and not daring to speak, because my Master lay in the next Room in a Bed by himself, and underneath my Mistress lay the Maid in a Trundle-Bed; so that we were afraid of the least creak: but my Mistress was



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was so cunning, to take the time when she heard her Husband snore; and the Maid had got that Hog-like posture, by which means I could tell when to go to my Mistress, or she to come to me; if I emitted going she would not omit coming, so dearly did she love me.

### CHAP. IV.

How he was lifted for a Thief, with the Instructions given him by the Master-Thief.

**A**fter I was sworn, our Master Thief composing his Countenance, and looking very gravely; Come, said he, my Knight of the Road, be rul'd by me: for my experience hath made me able to Command, and my Love is such to you, that I shall give you what Instructions I can. You must, when you are on the Pad, have your Masks, and Chin-clothes to disguise your Face; you must contrive a Watch-word to your selves, that may occasion no suspicion: let him that is strongest amongst you seize the first, and him that you think to be the best Man on the contrary party; and be sure observe this, to catch the Bridle by the Left-hand, and with your Right draw your Sword; and remember the younger and weaker is to bid stand, just fronting the Horse's head: and if they deny to deliver patiently what Moneys they have, you must not stand to parley with them, but cut them soundly; and if that will not qualifie them, be sure you fire not without doing Execution, and then fly with speed as soon as you have taken the Pillage.

If an Hue and Cry pursue you, put your self into some obscure place or other, and let it pass by you, and you may be sure it will never overtake you. If a Prize comes by, or in your sight, if up the Hill, meet; if down, follow close at the heels, and let each of you single out his Choice that he intends to deal with: The coast being clear, fall up all to your close order and side; and be sure you joyntly seize your Prize. Being thus well documented by my experienc'd Master, I resolv'd upon some Atchievement; and between five and six in the Afternoon, I my self with five more, set out. I was sent out for a Discovery, and not well understanding my Trade, I wandred too far; but in my progress, I met with a single Person, whom I bid stand: which he would willingly have done, and surrendred his Purse too, but that he was mounted on a Stone-horse, I on a Mare. As soon as I had given the word, his Stone-horse wheel'd off and came in the rear of me, I thinking he intended to crupper me, endeavour'd all ways I could to prevent him, but there was something it seems

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under my Mare's Tail more powerful, which I dream't not of. I led him round and round several times circularly. The poor Gentleman fearing he should provoke me too much by delays, cry'd, Worthy Sir, take what I have and spare my Life; at that very instant his Horse rear'd his two Fore-feet upon me and my Mare, with that I put Spurs to my Mare, and flew with all the speed I could for my safety, notwithstanding he was close at my Heels; striving and kicking with both my Legs; one of my Pistols went off in my Pocket, I thought my Friend behind me had shot at me, which made me roar out for quarter. He thought I had fired at him, which made him cry out, As you are a Man shew your self merciful. Sometimes he would say, Spare Sir, hold, good Sir, stop; which made me ride more furiously, thinking he had call'd the Country to him. At last his Stone-horse clapt up his Feet again upon my Mare, turning short I threw my self off, and he had the same fortune: I expected now that my Adversary would be upon me, and cut my Throat before I could recover my Legs; starting up, I found my mortal Foe upon the run, I was ready to cut my own Throat to think that I should be such a cowardly Fool; but rousing up my self, I resolv'd to pursue him, and in a little time made my self Master of what he had: Sirrah, said I, if ever I meet you again, and you be so obstinate as now you have been, I'll hamstring you: I could not but smile to see how pityfully he look't.

### C H A P. V.

*How he met with two of his old Acquaintance, and how he cheated a Gentleman of a Watch.*

**W**alking London-streets I met with two of my former Acquaintance, who pass'd by me, and seem'd to take little notice of me, which made me think there was something in hand, I perceiv'd where they entred, and was not long after them. Coming into the Room, I found them in company of three or four Gentlemen that were strangers to me, and to them too, as I found afterwards, I, at my entrance cast a wink at one of my Brethren, and he follow'd me into another Room, I ask'd him, Who they were? He told me they were Gentlemen going into the *West-Country*; and says he, we have been pumping of them, to know what store of Money they have about them: but as yet we can find but little. Says he, one of them hath a very rich Watch; I was glad to hear of that: I warrant you, said I, I will have it from him. I came in again to the Company, not taking



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taking the least cognizance of any, but shew'd much respect to them all, as a stranger. I desir'd to know of the Gentlemen what was a Clock? one of the Gentlemen and one of my Friends, pull'd out their Watches, striving who should resolve the Question; after this they view'd the Workmanship of each Watch, and praised each others Watch, at last my Friend makes a proposition: Come Sir, if you think good we will make an exchange upon Sentence and Repentance: The Stranger desir'd to know his meaning: Why Sir (said he) we will commit them into the Hands of any indifferent Person, and what difference he shall judge there is between them, shall be given in Money by him whose Watch is least worth. It was concluded upon, but they could not agree into whose Hands to put them. At last it was agreed that I being a stranger to them both should be Decider: I seemingly refus'd it, but they would force me to it; whereupon I went out and immediately caus'd my Horse to be brought forth, I without delay mounted and away I rid: my Comrades knew where to meet me that Night; they came to me, and told me how they all storm'd to be so cheated, to avoid suspicion by the other Gentlemen, and now did they imbrace me for my Policy; we sold the Watch for eight pound the next Day, and shar'd the Money.

### CHAP. VI.

*How he and his two Companions took Counsel to go upon the Padding-trade: and how they were catch'd and committed to Newgate.*

**I**N three or four Days time, we had set the Money flying we had for the Watch, and began to contrive which way to supply our Pockets: we order'd a meeting at the Tavern where honest Ralph was our Friend and Drawer; there we all concluded it was a thing below us, to drive such a small peddling Trade, and therefore we resolv'd to have at all; with this resolution we muster'd up our forces, and went and bought us Horses and Furniture fit for such Enterprizes. Being all well prepar'd we took our leaves of London for a while, we rid thirty Miles and then put up. The Hostler knowing me and the former Company that I was in, thought I was of the same Trade, and desir'd to speak with me by my self; I thought what his business was, which prov'd to be according: He told me there were three by the Kitchen-fire, who the next Morning would travel such a Road, and that he which rode upon the black Horse had the Money behind him; for, said he, I took the Portmantle down and carry'd it in. I thank him, biddingg

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bidding him come to my Chamber at Night, and I would talk further with him. He accordingly came and gave me an account of all; I promised him a good reward if we prosper'd. In the Morning early we rid in that very Road, thro' which these Travellers was to pass, after we had planted our selves conveniently we perceiv'd them at hand. At the bottom of the Hill we bid them stand: They ask'd us, What our will was? We told them, Money was the Commodity we wanted; and if they had any we would have it. With that they drew their Swords: with Pocket-pistols we fir'd at them, and they again at us, we were equally match'd: the third shot kill'd my Horse, the fourth kill'd one of my Companions; this so daunted my other Rogue that he ran away. I was now in a sad condition, and resolv'd to sell my Life at as dear a rate as I could; I fought with my Sword as long as I could stand upon my Legs, wounding two of them and their Horses; but at last was unhappily wounded in the Sword Hand, which disarm'd me; so that I was not able to contend with them any longer. They took me and carry'd me before the next Justice of the Peace, I had little to say for my self, my *Mittimus* was made, and I sent to Prison. As soon as the Keeper saw me, he leap'd for joy: Sir (said he) are you come, we will take care that you shall not escape again; and (that I might not) he laid as much Iron again as any of the rest of the Rogues had, and so put me into the Dungeon.

I could not perswade my self, but that I was in Hell, never did any place more resemble it; for here was Darknes; the rattling of Chains, and my Conscience flying in my Face demanding an account of what I had done. And my Actions being inhumane, and the Consideration of the near approach of Death, and the thoughts of an Eternal Punishment hereafter did so distract me, that I verily thought I heard the Groans of the Damned: but having somewhat appeas'd my Conscience with the promise of leading a new Life if I could but escape the Danger of the Law; I resolv'd with my self to let the World know my Reformation, by publishing something that might be of great use and benefit to Travellers, directing them how they might travel in safety: to that purpose, I got those that came to see me to supply me with Pen, Ink, Paper and Candles; so I set about my Work for the information of my loving Country-men.



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### CHAP. VII.

#### *Directions for Travellers.*

**I**F you are a Riding with Company, it may be two or three shall overtake you, and make as if they be much afraid of you. They will pretend they were just now set upon by four or five stout Fellows; but they did beat the Rogues and made them fly; and this they will seal with a bloody Oath or two, and by your Answers they will find whether you dare fight; and if they perceive you are cowardly they will wait an opportunity to set upon you; this I know by Experience, the most part of my Life having been spent in all manner of Cheats and Debauchery, and now at last Robbing on the High way. And being sensible of the wrong I have done my Country, I look'd upon my self as bound to satisfy the Debt as far as lies in my power.

If you carry a Charge about you, let it not be known to any, nor the time when you are to depart. This is a foolish Custom amongst some sort of Persons, to blaze abroad to their Friends the time when they intend a Journey, and vainly boast what a Sum of Money they shall carry with them; by which means one Friend often betrayeth another by informing some of the Padding society, the Discoverer sharing for giving notice of the Prize: my advice to you is, that you have a special care of the Hostler, Chamberlain, and Host himself; the two first the Thieves commonly Bribe, the Host many times for lucre of a part, or to have most of it spent in his House. Be sure to associate your self with none but such as you find willing rather to leave your Company than keep it; they are dangerous Persons that thrust themselves into Company; but if you would know whether their Company be honest, do you take occasion to make some stay, and be sure you observe their motion; if they make a stay or alight, so that you may overtake them, follow them at a distance; if their pace be so slow that you must overtake them, look you about and provide for your safety: for this is a true sign of a High-way-Man; other signs, are these: They commonly throw the flap of their Cloak over their Shoulders covering their Faces, or visibly disguise their Face in some manner or other, commonly with Vizards: if you meet with any that has none of these things, as soon as they come near you look full in their Faces, if they be Rogues they will turn their Faces. If so, be sure to keep at a distance, observe whether their Beards and  
Hair

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Hair of their Heads agree in colour; beware of him that rides in a Mountear-cap, and of such as whisper oft, or of any single Person that intrudes into your Company, for that is one of their ways to in-  
snare poor Travellers: He will tell you a great many merry Stories, and will shew himself more than ordinary civil; and so fearful of any thing may prejudice his new Acquaintance, that he no sooner espies two or three riding towards them, but he seems to tremble, and will question his Friend or Friends what Charge they have about them: if little, he'll tell them the best way will be to yield to these approaching Persons, if they should prove Thieves, rather than hazard their Life; but if it be any thing considerable, he will presently vow to be true to them; but before they have travell'd two or three Miles farther, a thousand to one but they shall overtake two or three more, and it may be riding with a twist of Hay instead of Boots, it may be with a Bill or Fork in his Hand; your new Acquaintance it may be will tell you he will make good sport with that Country Fellow, and to that purpose will ask him many foolish Questions, which the other will answer as ridiculously, to spin out time till they come to a convenient place. Then shall your pretended Friend seize one of you himself, and the Country-Bumpkin shall turn Hector and lay hold on another. Then it will be in vain to strive; for your Money they will have.

Again, I advise you, if you have a quantity of Money, to ride rather by Night than by Day: you will be free from any Horse-man or Cutter; but there be some base Sheep-stealing penny Rogues, who will venture their Lives for a Noble, though they hang for their pains. Take heed of their long Poles, and that they do not suddenly start out of a Hedge and lay hold on your Bridle: the nobler sort of Rogues scorn to rob by Night; besides they take it for granted that none will ride by Night that are worth any thing; and they are oblig'd to take their Inns betimes, for fear they should be Apprehended. 'Tis a rule for High-way Men to keep the greatest Roads, that from the Numbers that pass by they may choose the richest Booties. Beware of a foolish Custom amongst most Travellers, when they ride by any place that looks dangerous, they will brussel up together side by side, which is the usual overthrow of such. Therefore take my Counsel, When ere you ride in fear, ride far asunder, at least a Stone's-cast, by so doing none dares set upon you.

Again, my advice to you is, When Rogues bid you stand to look  
sternly



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sternly as if you had banished fear from you, and with an undaunted look tell them that though you have but little you will loose your Life rather than part with a penny to them: this is a good way to save your Money: for, fighting with a guilty Conscience within and without, against Country Law and Justice, I know by Experience if a Man resists nobly, the stoutest of them all will stoop to discouragement, but if you be suddenly surpris'd and overpower'd, be so wise as not to strive against the Stream, but give them the best words you can, wishing you had more Money to supply their wants. Deliver them some with a chearful Countenance, so perhaps they may let you pass without searching you farther; if they search you the second time, never lay your hand near your Mony. I know this by experience, that when I have taken a quantity from some Persons, by their fearful looks I have been sure they have had more about them; and if I did but lay my Hand near the place where the rest was concealed, they would suddenly cry out that they were undone, when as yet I had found nothing, but by their foolishness I have found the remainder which otherwise might have been safe.

### C H A P. VIII.

*Some directions for those that happen to be robb'd, how to follow the Thieves, which way to set Hue and Cry after them, and where to find them; also Advice and Instructions for Inn-keepers how to know Thieves from honest Guests.*

**W**Hen you are robbed delay not to pursue and to seize them who so lately seiz'd you: First I advise you to scoure the next Road, not streight before but either on the right or left hand, for they know the Hue and Cries never cross the passage but go streight along; if in so doing you miss them, then conclude they are sheltered in some Inn which you have past, and therefore you must set some spies near at hand, and a thousand to one but you will see them come that way, without any fear of being apprehended; but this know, if they light of any considerable Sum, then do they ride that night to their general Rendezvous in London; further take notice of this eminent example of their subtilty as the Devil hath taught them, if you be robbed in the Eastern Quarters, pursue them not in the direct Road to London with Hue and Cry, for it is some other way they are fled: but make hast to the City of Westminster, the Strand, Holborn, Covent-Garden, and there search speedily; and great chance but you find them. If you are robb'd Northward, then do you search Southward, the Bank-side or Lambeth; there you may find them.

My advice to Inn-keepers is that they take notice, first how extraordinary curious High-way-Men are about their Horses. They will have them most strangely drest, and as strange'y fed; with Mashies, Bread, Fleish, and mingled Provender. If you ask them the reason why they make so much of them, they will tell you that their good triks deserve it; and that their services would soon repay the Cost; by which you may have grounds enough to suspect them: 'tis their Custome likewise to ask whose Horse is that standing by, or what his Person is that's the owner thereof, what function or quality, whether he intends to travel, how far, and when. Observe again, that their Cloak-bags are empty, they carry them only for shew; as soon as ever the Chamberlain has conducted them to a Chamber, they presently dismiss him; but if he do but steal up and hearken at the door, 'tis ten to one but he shall hear them a shairing what Money they have got. This they always do for fear he that hath the Purse should cheat the rest. Again for their discovery make this tryal; send one hastily to knock at your own Gate, and at the same time do you peep into the Room,

## The Life and Death

where they are, and you shall see them stare in each others Face with gasty Looks, being struck with fear and amazement. Do you ask aloud that they may hear you, What Officers those are, and What they came for, or who they look for? or the like: and if you see them much affrighted, bid them fear not, for none shall search where they are to offer them any injury: By this means you may try their Thoughts and Actions so far as to see plainly what they are; and it may be they will confess something to you, and desire your concealment; and they will tell you they will be for ever engag'd to you. Then again, you may perceive by their loytering away their time, what they expect; for they only bait to observe what Purchase they can see pass by; which when they have spy'd they will be in great haste to be gone, pretending immediate Business. Again, when they come to an Inn, they come divided into several Companies to frustrate the Hue and Cry by their number, and if one part be taken the other may escape. When the residue comes in, they seem as strangers one to the other, enquiring of the Host, what his Company are, what Country-men, whether he knows them? If they find that he hath a jealousy of any of them, then will they pretend speedy business, and therefore must depart: but if you take them for honest Men, as they met by seeming chance in your Kitchen, after some formal salutations and drinking together, they become acquainted. Thus I have endeavour'd to lay open their Devices and Deceits, to repair the wrong I have done my Country: Just as I had done, word was brought me that I must immediately appear at the Bar to answer what was laid against me.

When I came to the Bar, casting my Eyes round about, I beheld so many of my Adversaries to give in their Evidence against me, that I concluded my self a lost Man: and in short, I received Sentence of Death, To be hang'd by the Neck till I was dead. I thought this Sentence would presently have depriv'd me of my Life, and saved the Hang-man a labour. All the way I went back from the Sessions, I fancied nothing but Gibbets stood in my way, and that I saw no other Trades but Cord-winders. As soon as I came into the Prison I was put into the Dungeon and loaded with Irons; I had not been there many Hours, but a Physician of Souls, I mean a Minister, one that I had formerly robb'd, came to visit me, who advised me to repent, and to confess what enormous Crimes I had committed. I finding that he had no other design but the good of my Soul, I gave him an account of the Actions of my Life, which were so notoriously wicked, that it amaz'd him to hear so much Roguery in one Man. He did what in him lay, to make me sensible of the wickedness of my Life, telling me, that the least evil action deserv'd Hell and Eternal Torments. So effectual and powerfull was his Message that it melted my Heart and provok'd Tears from my Eyes; having but a short time to live, I thought it high time to prepare for Death; my sole Companions now were Despair and Fear; for the King of Fear is Death. Now came into my mind the consideration of Eternity; now would I have suffer'd any thing in this Life, that I might not suffer in the Life to come. I was Condemn'd on Friday, from which time to Monday following, the Day of Execution, I never slept one wink, neither did I eat or drink. Then did I hear my Passing-bell; every stroke methought carry'd my Soul one degree higher; being well satisfy'd about my Eternal State, I willingly imbraced Death.



# An Alphabetical Canting Dictionary English before the Canting.

## A, B.

**A** Carious wench, *Rum Mort.*  
 An Apron, *Belly cheat.*  
 An instrument to break a Door, *Betty.*  
 A part or share, *Earnest.*  
 An hole, *Ferm.*  
 A Goat, *Flag.*  
 A receiver of stolen Goods, *Fencing Cully.*  
 A Gentlewoman, *Gentry-mort.*  
 A Door, *Gigger.*  
 Any writing or Pass, *Gybe.*  
 A Guinea or Job, *Huskie law.*  
 A little Child, *Kinchin.*  
 A little Man, *Kinchin cove.*  
 A private dwelling House, *Libben.*  
 All manner of Clothes, *Lurries.*  
 All sorts of Thieves, *Priggs.*  
 Any sort of Mear, *Peck or Peckidge.*  
 Any Lace, *Peak.*  
 A notorious Rogue, *Ruffler.*  
 An arm, *Smiter.*  
 An arse, *Cracker.*  
 Andirons, *Glimfenders.*  
 Agree with a man, *Famgrasp the cove.*  
 Angry, *Glim flashy.*  
**B.**  
 Bar-boy, *Squeaker.*  
 Beadle of Bridlewell, *Flogging cove.*  
 Better, *Benor.*  
 Bridewell, *Naskin.*  
 Begger born, *Clapperdodgeon.*  
 Boghouse or Privy, *Croppinken.*  
 Bed, *Libedge.*  
 Bottle, *Bounsing cheat.*  
 Begg, *Maund.*  
 Beggars, *Maunders.*  
 Bread, *annam.*  
 Be careful of what you say, *Stow your whilds and plant 'em.*  
 Bridle, *Nabgirder.*  
 Bolt or Shackles, *Crampings.*  
 Body, *Quarron.*  
 Base or Ro-uish, *Queer.*  
 Bacon, *Ruff Peck.*  
 Bastard, *Scall-whimper.*  
 Brokers, *Fencing Cully.*  
 Belated, *Hoodwink.*  
 Blind men, *Groppers.*  
 Barn, *Skipppers.*

## C, D.

Bar of an Ale-house or Tavern, *Touting Ken.*  
 Be wary, *Stow your whilds.*  
 Brokers shop, *Scallen ken.*  
 Beaten, *Chast.*  
 Breast, *Heaver.*  
**C.**  
 Cart, *Tumbler.*  
 Coach beggars, *Ratling mumpers.*  
 Cloak bag, *Roger or Peter.*  
 Cheat, *Napper.*  
 Coach, *Ratler.*  
 Chamber-pot, *Fockum-gage.*  
 Coach-man, *Smacking-cove.*  
 Constable, *Harman-beak.*  
 Candlestick, *Glym-stick.*  
 Cut the Cloak-bag, *Flick the Pecter.*  
 Corn, *Grannam.*  
 Clusters of Grapes, *Rum-boozing welts.*  
 Carriers, *Denseavile Stampers.*  
 Choaked, *Frummagem'd.*  
 Crutch, *Lifter or pleyer.*  
 Copulate, *Wap or Fockum cloy.*  
 Country, *Denseaville.*  
 Counterfeit, *Conseck.*  
 Crafty Fellow, *Clincher.*  
 Crust, *Crackler.*  
 Cheese, *Cash or Chassan.*  
 Chicken, *Cackling cheat.*  
 Cloak, *Calley or Togeman.*  
 Cheat or cozen, *Bite.*  
 Church, *Autem.*  
 Coat, *Mish-topper.*  
 Cow, *Mower.*  
**D.**  
 Drawers of Wine, *Rum-hoppers.*  
 Dog, *Bugbar.*  
 Drink, *Booze.*  
 Droufie, *Peeping.*  
 Dumb, *Cank.*  
 Ditch, *Fague.*  
 Day or day break, *Light mans.*  
 Drunken, *Nazy.*  
 Dry or thirsty, *Chapt.*  
 Drunkard, *Nazy Cove.*  
 Duck, *Quacking-cheat.*  
 Devil, *Ruffin.*  
 Dish, *Skew.*  
 Drover, *Mower-beater.*

# The Canting Dictionary.

## E.

Engt, *Cackling Farts.*  
Enter or goe into an house, *Dup.*  
Eyes, *Ogles or Glaziers.*  
Ends of Gold and Silver, *Spangles.*

## F.

Fellows that pick up People for Transportation called *Spirits, Kidnappers.*  
Face, *Muns.*  
Fool or Coxcomb, *Nizie.*  
Fearfull, *Peery.*  
Fly or Run, *Brush.*  
Pop, or one that may easily be wrought upon, *Cully.*  
Fire, *Glymmer.*  
Feet, *Stampers.*

## G.

Gold, *Mynt.*  
Genteel Beggars, *Mumpers.*  
Goal, *Naskin.*  
Gallows, *Trine, or Topping cheat.*  
Gallant, *Rum.*  
Gold-smith, *Ridge cully.*  
Garden or Nosegay, *Smelling cheat.*  
Goes up the stairs, *Track up the Dancers.*  
Give, *Tip.*  
Glass, *Flicker.*  
Glass broken, *Flicker snapt.*

## H.

High-way, *Topping Cove.*  
High-way-man, *Rum pad.*  
Horse, *Rum padders.*  
Horse stealers, *Prancers.*  
Head, *Nab.*  
Hat, *Nab cheat.*  
Half-penny, *Make.*  
House, *Ken.*  
Hands, *Fumbles.*  
Hose, *Drawers.*  
Hostess, *Su pouch.*  
Heart, *Panter.*  
Host, *Bluffer.*

## I.

Ingage, *Bolt the Shrip.*

## K.

King of the link Boys, *Rum Glimmer.*  
Knavery, *Queer topping.*

## L.

Link-boy, *Moon-cusset or Glym-Jack.*  
Looking glass, *Peeper.*

London, *Rumvile.*

Legs, *Stampers.*

Licence, *Fukrum.*

Look through the Casement, *Tout through the wicket.*

Lips, *Gans.*

Lye, *Coker.*

## M.

Mafs, *Salomon.*

Mailard, *Red-shank.*

Milk-pottage, *Papplar.*

Money, *Loure.*

Married Women, *Autem-Mort.*

Mad-men, *Dommerars.*

Man, *Cove.*

## N.

Nose, *Figg.*

Neck, *Nub.*

Newgate, *Whit.*

Night or Evening, *Dark-man.*

Naked, *Abram.*

## O.

One that slips into an House in the dark and steals what he can lay hand on, *Budge.*

One that creeps in at Casements and lets in others to rob the House, *Glazier.*

One that filcheth commodities out of a Shop under the pretence of cheapening or bying, *Shoplift.*

One that lyeth underneath a Bed or in some other covert place to watch an opportunity to rob the House, *Snudge.*

One whose Father is born a Begger, *O Q P on the Stairs, Blow off on the Ground sell.*

## P.

Pottage, *Lap.*

Pork, *Grunting Peck.*

Pease, *Trundlers.*

Partners to Files, *Shoulder-shams.*

Piece of old Gold, *Old Mr. Gory.*

Portmantle, *Peester.*

Prison, *Queer Ken.*

Penny, *Win.*

Picklock, *Gilt.*

Pot or pipe, *Gage.*

Pretty, *Dimber.*

Plague, *Cannakin.*

Pox, *Bube.*

Purse, *Bung.*

Poor fellow, *Abram Cove.*

Quest.



# The Canting Dictionary.

Question, Starter.	S. T.
R.	Sheep-stealer, Napper of Naps.
Rascal, Damber.	Steal, Mill or cloy.
Rings or Gloves, Fumble Cheats.	Seal, Jark.
Rich Coxcomb, Rum Cully.	T.
Ride, Prig.	Teeth, Crushing Cheats.
Riding, Prigging.	To dye, Couch.
Riders, Priggers.	To go to sleep, Couch a hog-head.
Rogue, Queer Cove.	To speak well, Cut ben whids.
S.	To speak ill, Cut Queer whids.
Shilling, Bord or Hog.	To be whipt, Cly the Jark.
Sheep, Bleating Cheats.	Two-pence, Denfwins.
Steal the Portmantle, Bite the Roger.	Three-pence, Trefwins.
Shirt, Mish.	Tobacco, Fogus.
Speak, Cut.	To take Tobacco, Raise a Cloud.
Stockings, Drawers.	To bear, Bib.
Sucking Pig, Grunting Cheat.	To spend or lay out, Fence.
Stocks, Harman.	Teeth, Grinders.
Sixpence, Half a hog.	To rob an house, Heave a booth.
Silver, Witcher.	To tumble together, Lib.
Silver bowl, Witcher-bubber.	Transported, Marinade.
Silver-Smith, Witcher cully.	To lay, place or hide, Rhant.
Straw, Strummel.	Tongue, Prating Cheat.
Sheets, Slates.	To run away, Pikes.
Stockings, Stock-drawers.	To wear, Scour.
Shoes, Stamps.	To look, Tour.
Shop, Swag.	To hang, Trine.
Sought after with a warrant, Romblyd.	The Sessions house, Nubbing Ken.
	Turkey, Cobble Colt.

A Character of the Rogues that profess the Mysterys, and Diabolical Gibberish call'd Canting.

I shall begin with the first I have heard of; which were the Founders and first Professors of Canting, and I found their Names male, thus recorded.

An Upright Man, A Mumper, A Ruffler, A Ben-Feaker, An Angler, An Abram Man, A Rogue, A Whipjack, A Prigger of Bracers, A Patrico, A Palliard, An Irish Toyl, A Frater, A Swigman, A Quire Bird, A Kitching Cove.

**T**he Upright Man is one of the stoutest Rogues in the whole pack, whom they choose at a meeting of all the Fraternity, to be their Chief Leader.

This Upright Man hath seldom less then twenty or thirty Males and Females at his Command: he picks out the handsomest of them for his own recreation, and makes the other toyl and moyle all the Day, for to bring home to their Quarters the best of Provision; where at night they all Carouse together, with more Dishes, sometimes, than is at a Lords Table; All is their own as they lay their hands on; they call themselves Gypsies, all things are common amongst them.

## A Ruffler.

A Ruffler is one, that goes under the pretence of a maimed Soldier; he always takes an account of all the Gentlemens Houses, to which he resorts, with a List in his Pocket, of all the old Commanders, which were noted Royalists: He singles out the

## *The Life and Death*

the Heirs of such Commanders, and then tells them a formal Story, that he had the honour to serve under their worthy Father in such a Redgiment, at such a fight; as *Naseby, Edge-hill, Newbury, Marston Moor, &c.* and in that Service he was lam'd; and thus he goes from one to another. But by the way, if he meets Country People coming from Market, or any others that have any Booty, he will not stick to seize it, though he be hang'd for his pains.

If he dwells in the City, then his usual place to stand, is in *Lincoln-Inn-fields*, or *Covent-Garden*, where he scorns to beg of any under a Person of Quality; and then he nimbly hops to a Coach-side, beseeching their Honours to commiserate the piteous Condition of a great Sufferer for his Majesty; and hath the Impudency in a commanding way to crave an Alms; and if he is deny'd, he shakes his Head and cries, 'Tis a sad thing that an old crippled Cavalier should be suffer'd to beg for a maintenance, and a young Cavalier, that never heard the whistle of a Buller, should ride in his Coach.

### *Of Anglers.*

*Anglers* are so called, because they have a Rod or Stick, with an Iron hook at the end of it; with which they angle in the Night at Windows, or any other place, where all is Fish that comes to Net. In the Day-time they beg from House to House, to spy where to plant their Designs, which at Night they put in Execution.

### *Of Rogues.*

The Name of *Rogue*, denotes the Nature; it appertains to all shho are of a wicked and dissolute Life and Conversation; any Criminal whose Actions are cognizable by the Law, may come under the denomination of a Rogue, as *Gilds, Shop-lifts, Files, Bulklers, Runners, Padders, Booth-heavers, Vouchers*, and the like.

All these have their particular Societies, and they are so link'd together, that they seldom part till they are hang'd: If one be taken, the rest are sworn to relieve them.

### *Wild Rogues.*

They are such as were begotten by very Rogues, such who have been burnt in the Hand, or whipt at the *Care's Arse, &c.* These in their Swaddling-cloths are marked for Villains, and are then taught all manner of Rognery: As first to go into Churches or great Crowds, and nim golden Buttons off Mens Cloaks; and when very little are taught how to creep in at Celler-windows in the Night, to convey out thereat whatever they can find; and sometimes to open the Door to let in their Crew to rob the House.

### *Priggers of Prancers.*

Are those that steal Horses; for *Prig* is to steal, and *Prancer* is a Horse: These Rogues seldom go without a light Bridle in their Pockets, and a Pad-saddle in their Breaches.

### *Of Palliards or Clapperdungeons.*

These are Beggers born, who have their Mortis in the Streets, with Children of their own or borrowed ones: these Jades know how to scruce up their Faces into what posture they please, crying, For God's sake, bestow your Charity on these poor Fatherless Children, &c.

The *Palliards* or *Clapperdungeons*, are those that counterfeit Lameness. In *Dorsetshire*, once a Year at *Woodberry-hill*, there is a Fair; and there being a very considerable of Beggers multitude lying at the bottom of the Hill begging, an arch Fellow, who had observ'd what Counterfeit Rogues the major part of these were, went to the top of the Hill, and unpinned the Wheel of a Cart, and at the brow of the Hill which was very



## of the English Rogue.

very high, crying out to the Beggars below, Have at the Blind-harpers, lets the Wheel go: whereupon, the Counterfeits cut the strings of their counterfeit lame Legs and ran for it: by which their Cheats were discover'd.

### *Fraters.*

*Fraters*, are such as counterfeit Patents to beg for Hospitals, and thereby do intol'ably Cheat the Country.

### *Whip-jacks.*

*Whip-jacks*, are counterfeit Mariners, who talk of nothing but Sea-fights, Drownings and Ship-wracks; they have always a counterfeit Pass or Licence, which they call a Gybe, and with this they Cheat the Country; telling them of their great Losses, and that they beg only for something to carry them home: but in the way, they will not flick to heave a Booth; that is, rob a Booth at a Fair, or some on the Road. These Rogues have learn'd all the Sea-terms, so that they often cheat those that have been at Sea.

### *Mumpers.*

*Mumpers*, are both Male and Female, a genteeler sort of Beggars, they scorn to beg for Food, but Money or Cloaths; the Money they lay out to pamper the Gut, and the Cloaths they sell to re-imburse the Pocket: Sometimes they appear in the Habit of some decay'd Gentleman, and then he pretends what a great Sufferer he hath been for his Maiesty; sometimes he appears with an Apron before him, and a Cap on his Head, and begs in the nature of a broken Tradesman, who having been a long time sick, has spent all his Stock, and now is so weak that he cannot Work.

### *Of Dommers.*

*Dommers*, are such as Counterfeit themselves Dumb; they have an Art to rowl their Tongues up into the Roof of their Mouths, so that you cannot see it.

### *Of the Night-walker and Diver.*

I cannot well part these two; for she that is a Diver, or Pick-pocket, is an infallible Stroler or Night-walker; this Occupation is contrary to all others; for she opens her Shop-windows when all other Traders are about to shut up: the Night approaching she rigs her self in the best manner she can, with some apparent outward Ensign of her Profession; having weigh'd Anchor and quitted her Port, she steers her course for some principal Street, as *Cheapside*, or *Cornhill* and the Bridge-walks: With a gentle Breeze she first sails slowly on the one side of the way, and if she meets never a Man of War she Tacks and stands away for the other side. But if it be a well-built Frigate, she is laid aboard before, and made fast with Grapplings, and presently rummaged in the Hold; sometimes she shears off and leaves the Man of War on Fire.

You may know her by her brushing you, and staring you in the Face, and by her often halting in the Street, and gazing about her, or looking after some that she hath brusht; but the most infallible sign, is her asking of Questions, As, I pray Sir, what is it a Clock? Or, which is the way to such a place; for I am a great stranger here.

If you pick her up, 'tis a thousand to one but she will give you something whereby you shall have cause to remember her as long as you live; besides 'tis a thousand pound to a penny but she picks your Pocket into the Bargain.

FINIS.

# Advertisement.

**T**here is lately brought from *Chili* in *America* a most excellent natural Balsam, far exceeding that of *Peru* and *Tolu*, in curing most Diseases in human Bodies: 'Tis a Remedy no Man under the Sun can compose, as being a most Odoriferous and Natural Balsam. It cures all Pains proceeding from Cold, corroborates the Stomach, creates an Appetite, and strengthens the whole Body: It is a wonderful Remedy for all internal Sores, Bruises, Ulcers, &c. and mightily helps all Asthmatical Distempers: 'Tis also a great Cephalick, helping most Diseases of the Head, and strengthening the Brain and Nerves: It kills the Worms, provokes Urine, and is good against the Stone; helps all Fluxes of the Belly; is excellent in all Diseases of the Ears, especially Deafness: It also cures all manner of green Wounds.

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